



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

May 28, 2015

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6001
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6040
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana /s/ Tim H. Felchle

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 15-37**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Elevation: 3631.01; Storage: 920,741 acre-feet; River Release: 4,500 cfs; Inflow: 10,830 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Frequent rain showers accompanied by the snowmelt runoff are continuing to maintain high inflows into Yellowtail Dam. To control the runoff and slow the rate of fill, the following operations are required at Yellowtail Dam and Powerplant and Yellowtail Afterbay Dam.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 0600 hour on Friday, May 29, 2015:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 5,330 cfs (\approx 3,840 MW-Hours/day using 33.3 cfs/mw).

At 1600 hour on Friday, May 29, 2015:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 5,330 cfs (\approx 3,840 MW-Hours/day using 33.3 cfs/mw).

Limit turbine release to 3-unit capacity.

YELLOWTAIL BYPASS RELEASE:

At 0600 hour on Friday, May 29, 2015:

Initiate release through the river outlet works to \approx 500 cfs.

At 1600 hour on Friday, May 29, 2015:

Increase release through the river outlet works to \approx 1,000 cfs.

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 0600 hour on Friday, May 29, 2015:

Maintain diversion to Bighorn Canal at 400 cfs (gage height = 73.17 with a 0.0 ft shift).

Increase river release to 5,500 cfs (gage height = 62.18 with a -0.28 ft shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 5,900 cfs

At 1600 hour on Friday, May 29, 2015:

Maintain diversion to Bighorn Canal at 400 cfs (gage height = 73.17 with a 0.0 ft shift).

Increase river release to 6,000 cfs (gage height = 62.42 with a -0.28 ft shift).

Increase total release from the Afterbay to 6,400 cfs